

## CHAPTER,

### IV, 1806.

Menaces of Prussia—Offer for restoring Hanover to England —Insolent ultimatum — Commencement of hostilities between France and Prussia — Battle of Auerstadt—Death of the Duke of Brunswick — Bernadotte in Hamburg — Davoust and Bernadotte — The Swedes at Liibeck— Major Ainiel — Service rendered to the English Minister at Hamburg — My appointment of Minister for the King of Naples — New regulation of the German post-offices — The Confederation of the North — Devices of the Hanse Towns — Occupation of Hamburg in the name of the Emperor — Decree of Berlin — The military governors of Hamburg—Brune, Michaud, and Bernadotte.

THE moment now approached when war was about to be renewed in Germany, and in proportion as the hopes of peace diminished Prussia redoubled her threats, which were inspired by the recollection of the deeds of the great Frederick. The idea of peace was hateful to Prussia. Her measures, which till now had been sufficiently moderate, suddenly assumed a menacing aspect on learning that the Minister of the<sup>1</sup> King of England had declared in Parliament that France had consented to the restitution of Hanover. The French Ministry intimated to the Prussian Government that this was a preliminary step towards a general peace, and that a large indemnity would be granted in return. But the King of Prussia, who was well informed, and convinced that the House of Hanover clung to this ancient domain, which gave to England a certain preponderance in Germany, considered himself trifled with, and determined on war.

Under these circumstances Lord Lauderdale was recalled from Paris by his Government. War continued with England, and was about to commence with Prussia.<sup>1</sup> The Cabinet

<sup>1</sup> The severity with which Bonaparte treated the press may be inferred from the case of Palm the publisher. In 1806 Johanh Phillip Palm, of Nuremberg, was shot by Napoleon's order for issuing a pamphlet against the rule of the French in Germany.

+ \*« rather singular that Bourrienne should have omitted to mention the